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Inter-organizational security measures: framework for accountability for the United Nations field security management system

Twelfth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Inter-organizational security measures: framework for accountability for the United Nations field security management system" (A/57/365). During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification.

2. The Advisory Committee notes, as indicated in paragraph 2 of the report and further clarified by the representatives of the Secretary-General, that the report was prepared in consultation with the specialized agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system during meetings of the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, and was approved by the High-Level Committee on Management in accordance with its mandate to approve matters related to administrative and budgetary questions on behalf of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB). The Committee commends the Secretary-General and the Inter-Agency Security Management Network for the well prepared and detailed report.

3. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the new mechanism of accountability and responsibility in the area of field security outlined in the report would be implemented within currently authorized resources. **The Committee requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the capacity in the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator to monitor effectively the activities outlined in the report.**

4. **The Advisory Committee stresses the importance of adequate training in the process of implementing the new mechanism and welcomes the emphasis**

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placed on training in the report of the Secretary-General (see A/57/365, paras. 25-33).

5. The Advisory Committee enquired whether the Department of Peacekeeping Operations was covered in the new mechanism of accountability and responsibility in the area of field security. The Committee was informed that the Secretary-General would report to the General Assembly on the issue in the context of section VIII, paragraph 4, of Assembly resolution 56/255 of 24 December 2001, by which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to conduct an evaluation of the United Nations security system, including the new security arrangements and the relationship and interaction between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, and to report his findings and recommendations to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session. **The Committee stresses the importance of the above-mentioned evaluation and urges its completion as soon as possible.**

6. The Advisory Committee was informed that a framework of cooperation on security issues with non-governmental organizations was being worked out. **The Committee welcomes this development and emphasizes the importance of devising a system for charging parties other than immediate partners in the United Nations security management system for services.**

7. The Advisory Committee was informed that, of the 100 posts authorized for the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator in the field, 98 had been filled. Out of a total of 38 posts approved for Headquarters, 22 have been filled thus far, including 3 of the 7 posts financed under the support account for peacekeeping operations. The Committee was informed that, owing to a lack of office space, recruitment was being held back at Headquarters and that new, larger office facilities were expected to be available for the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator in November 2002.

8. **The Committee recommends that the General Assembly take note of the mechanism of accountability and responsibility in the area of field security, which is now in place. The Committee also recommends that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to transmit the report to the Executive Heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency so that it may be made available to the legislative bodies of those specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.**